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URBAN DISTRICT
OF
PORTISHEAD

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1966

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HOUSING AND HEALTH COMMITTEE

1965/66	1966/67
Chairman	**Chairman**
Mrs. H. Veale	Mrs. H. Veale
Vice-Chairman	**Vice-Chairman**
Mr. S. Windibank (Vice-Chairman of the Council)	Mr. L.A. Stevenson
Mrs. G. Golasz	Mrs. G. Golasz
Mrs. N.R.G. Johnston	Miss E. Wigan
Miss E.M. Wigan	Mr. W.G.L. Brown
Mr. H.R. Bishop	Mr. H. Bishop
Mr. W.G.L. Brown	Mr. V. Gallop
Mr. V. Gallop	Mr. D.H. Haigh
Mr. R.F. Padfield (Chairman of the Council)	Mr. R.F. Padfield (Chairman of the Council)
Mr. L.A. Stevenson	Mr. S. Windibank (Vice-Chairman of the Council)

OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health:	Dr. Valerie N. Baker, M.B., Ch.B.,D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.
Deputy Medical Officer of Health:	Dr. Amy Baird, M.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.P.H.
Public Health Inspector:	Mr. S. Taylor, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Area Health Office,
2, Marson Road,
Clevedon.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Portishead Urban District Council.

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1966.

The birth rate in Portishead is still rising, against the national trend, where a peak was reached in 1964. The death rate is again slightly above the national average.

As far as infectious diseases are concerned, the only epidemic was of dysentery at the residential nursery in the district. This occurred shortly before Christmas, but was controlled, and the children enabled to enjoy the festive season.

Steady work has continued by your Public Health Inspector, in the various fields covered in this report, and he has prepared much of it.

As usual, I welcome the ready and pleasant cooperation of councillors and officers.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient servant,

V. N. BAKER

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

STATISTICAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

General Statistics - 1966

Area	1,119 acres
Population (mid year estimate)	7,370
Area comparability factors	Births - 1.10 Deaths - 1.12
Rateable Value, 1st April 1966	£542,242
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£2,210

Vital Statistics for 1966

Live Births	Males	Females	Total	
Legitimate	73	67	140	Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population = 21.0
Illegitimate	11	4	15	
Totals	84	71	155	
Stillbirths				
All legitimate	0	1	1	Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births = 6.4
Deaths	36	46	82	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population = 11.1

Illegitimate live births

Rate per cent of total live births = 9.6

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion - 0

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age

All infants per 1,000 live births (total = 2) - 12.9

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births (total = 2) - 14.3

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births (total = 0) - 0

Neonatal mortality rate, deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births (total = 2) - 12.9

Early neonatal mortality rate, deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births (total = 1) - 6.4

Perinatal mortality rate, still births and deaths under one week per 1,000 total live and still births (total = 2) - 12.8

Vital Statistics 1962 - 66

Live Births

Year	Legitimate		Illegitimate		Total	Rate per 1,000 of the Estimated Resident Population		
	Male	Female	Male	Female		Portishead		England & Wales
						Crude	Adjusted	
1962	79	70	1	5	155	-	23.0	18.0
1963	62	55	3	1	121	17.2	18.9	18.2
1964	60	67	5	1	133	18.7	20.6	18.4
1965	81	61	4	4	150	20.7	22.8	18.1
1966	84	71	11	4	155	21.0	23.1	17.7

The adjusted birth rate, is the crude rate multiplied by the area comparability factor, which adjusts the age and sex distribution of the population to correspond with those of England and Wales. The same applies to the adjusted death rate.

Stillbirths

Year	Male	Female	Total	Rate per 1,000 live and still births	
				Portishead	England & Wales
1962	0	3	3	19.0	18.1
1963	0	1	1	8.2	17.3
1964	1	0	1	7.5	16.4
1965	1	1	2	13.3	15.7
1966	0	1	1	6.4	15.4

Vital Statistics 1962 - 66

Deaths

Year	Male	Female	Total	Rate per 1,000 of the Estimated Resident Population — Portishead Crude	Portishead Adjusted	England & Wales
1962	35	30	65	-	9.7	11.9
1963	38	39	77	11.2	12.4	12.2
1964	42	33	75	10.5	12.0	11.3
1965	41	34	75	10.3	11.0	11.5
1966	36	46	82	11.1	12.4	11.7

	Death Rate of all infants per 1,000 live births		Death Rate under 4 weeks of age per 1,000 total live births		Death Rate of infants under one week of age & stillbirths per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	
	Portishead	England & Wales	Portishead	England & Wales	Portishead	England & Wales
1962	0	21.6	0	15.1	19.0	30.8
1963	24.8	20.9	24.8	14.2	32.8	29.3
1964	7.5	20.0	7.5	13.8	14.9	28.2
1965	0	19.0	0	13.0	13.3	26.9
1966	12.9	19.0	12.9	12.9	12.8	26.3

POPULATION

Year	Estimated mid-year population	Total increase from previous year	Natural increase	Net Immigration
1962	6,730	-	-	-
1963	7,040	310	44	266
1964	7,130	90	58	32
1965	7,260	130	75	55
1966	7,370	110	73	37

PORTISHEAD - 1966

CAUSES OF DEATH	SEX	Total all Ages	Under 4 wks	4 weeks & under 1 year	1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75+
Malignant neoplasm,	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
stomach	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Malignant neoplasm,	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
lung, bronchus	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm,	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
breast	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
Other malignant and	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-
lymphatic neoplasms	F	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	5	-
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vascular lesions of	M	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	3
nervous system	F	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	3	6
Coronary disease,	M	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	4	1
angina	F	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	2
Hypertension with	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
heart disease	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Other heart disease	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other circulatory	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
disease	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Pneumonia	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Bronchitis	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Other Diseases of	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Respiratory System	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Nephritis and	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Nephrosis	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other defined and ill-	M	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
defined diseases	F	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other accidents	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Homicide and	M	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Operations of war	F	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total all Causes	M	36	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	5	8	11	10
	F	46	2	-	1	-	-	-	1	4	7	13	18

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Scarlet Fever	1	1	5	2	-
Whooping cough	-	29	2	-	-
Measles	-	54	3	47	-
Tuberculosis, respiratory	5	6	1	-	2
non-respiratory	-	1	-	-	-
Dysentery	1	1	-	-	24
Acute pneumonia	-	2	-	-	1
Erysipelas	-	1	-	-	-

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 (Section 47) and AMENDMENT ACT, 1951

A woman, suffering from grave chronic disease, has continued to live at home this year in dirty conditions. She has refused any sort of help in the house, even from her husband. She was in hospital for a short time in the early part of the year because of a leg injury. Whilst in hospital the flat was cleaned by her husband. Throughout the rest of the year, the conditions deteriorated again, and consideration of her removal under this Act is reviewed frequently.

WATER SUPPLY

The quantity of water has been satisfactory throughout the year. Complaints still arise when the supply comes from Chelvey, in the summer months or in periods of drought, due to the hardness of this water. Softening of the Chelvey supply is planned but is not likely to be fully operative before 1968.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The whole of the urban district is sewered apart from a few isolated individual dwellings, and this discharges untreated into the Bristol Channel. Further consideration has been given to the construction of a sewage treatment works, and preliminary discussions have taken place with Long Ashton Rural District Council to consider a Gordano Valley drainage scheme.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

A weekly collection of household refuse continues to operate. Trade refuse is collected at an agreed charge. A new tip has been purchased in the Gordano Valley and is being prepared for use in early 1967.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
Number of properties in district	2,582	6
Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	28	2
Number infested by (i) Rats	14	-
(ii) Mice	6	-
Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	88	-
Number infested by (i) Rats	18	-
(ii) Mice	10	-

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

The methods of measuring atmospheric pollution have changed in 1966. A second volumetric smoke and sulphur dioxide measuring apparatus was installed in January. The measurement of sulphur dioxide by lead candles was abandoned.

Measurements of grit deposits and smoke from Albright & Wilson's chimneys have continued.

In April there were unusually high grit deposits, due to cold weather, more electricity generation and snowfall.

Complaints of excessive low level emissions from Albright & Wilsons were discussed at the Joint Consultative Committee in January and May. The pollution worsened in June due to alterations in the furnaces and in early July the Company promised to extract low level fumes via the precipitators and chimneys, by the end of August. The position improved thereafter.

The volumetric smoke and sulphur dioxide machines shew an increase of smoke pollution in the winter months, due to domestic chimeys, more marked in the West Hill area.

HOUSING

Number of houses demolished or closed -
(a) under section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957 (individual unfits) 3
(b) for other purposes (road improvements etc.) nil

Number of houses made fit during year 4

	Houses erected during year		Houses in course of erection		Gained from conversion of large houses or buildings into flats or dwellings	Lost from conversion of two or more houses to one
	For Slum Clearance	For other purposes	For Slum Clearance	For other purposes		
Local Authority	-	18	-	9	-	-
Private Enterprise	-	37	-	115	2	-

Number of post-war houses erected from 1st April 1945 to 31st December 1966 -

By local authority - 603 By private enterprise - 672

Local authority housing programme 1967 - 42

(a) Number of temporary housing units occupied - (i) Prefabs - nil
(ii) Huts etc. - nil
(b) Number of houses found overcrowded - 3

Houses required:

(i) To replace houses scheduled for demolition - 8
(ii) To abate overcrowding - 3
(iii) For other purposes - 0
(iv) Applications for council houses at end of year
(a) Urgent bona fide cases - 5
(b) Applications for Old People's Dwellings - 25
(c) Others - 76

Total Applications - 106
(v) Total number of council houses sold during year - 1

	No. of permanent dwellings in District as at 31.12.65	Gained from conversions and erected during 1966	Total (a) & (b)	Less houses demolished, closed, etc. during year	No. of permanent dwellings in District as at 31.12.66 L.A.	P.E.
Local Authority	728*	18	746	0	745	
Private Enterprise	1497	37	1534	3		1532
Totals	2225	55	2280	3	2277	

* Includes 89 privately built houses purchased by the Council.

OLD PEOPLE'S DWELLINGS

Number erected to 31.12.66		Number in course of erection	
With County Council Aid	Without County Council Aid	With County Council Aid	Without County Council Aid
57	-	9	-

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

A. Discretionary

Number of applications and houses dealt with by Local Authority during year:

Received		Approved	
Applications	No.of dwellings	Applications	No.of dwellings
3	3	3	3

Number of applications approved in respect of owner/occupiers during year - 3

Average cost per dwelling approved during year - £429

Amount of grant payable by local authority - £635

B. Standard

1. Number of applications (a) Received - nil
   (b) Approved - nil

2. Number of houses where standard amenities have been provided - nil

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

	Permanent	Seasonal
(a) Number of single caravans licensed	nil	nil
(b) Number of site licences issued in respect of more than one caravan	1	nil
(c) Estimated maximum number of occupants resident during year	35	nil
(d) Number of sites closed as a result of above Act	nil	nil
(e) Camping sites - number of unlicensed sites in use.	nil	nil

FOOD

MILK

(a) Number of Registered Distributors - 4
(b) Number of Registered Dairy Premises (other than Dairy Farms) - 4

Notices served under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959 - Nil

ICE CREAM

Number of premises registered for:

(a) Manufacture and retail - Nil	(b) Manufacture only - nil	(c) Retail only - 24

FOOD HYGIENE

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations

No prosecutions were instituted. A reasonably good standard of hygiene both in storing and handling food was found during routine inspections. Several food shops and a few preparation premises are carrying out improvements to their premises.

Food premises subject to the above Regulations:

(i) No.of premises - 66
(ii) No. of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16 - 66
(iii) No. of premises to which Reg.19 applies - 36
(iv) No. of premises fitted to comply with Reg.19 - 36

The Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations

Action taken during the year - nil

SLAUGHTERHOUSES ACT

No slaughterhouses are owned or leased by the local authority. There are no private slaughterhouses, or bacon factories.

PREMISES WHERE FOOD IS PREPARED

Number registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955, (ice-cream, manufactured meat products, etc.) - 11

AGRICULTURAL (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956

The five farms in the area were inspected and found to comply with the provisions of the Act concerning sanitary conveniences.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Number of premises registered under the Act - 76.

Routine inspections were carried out and revisits to premises to check progress on work or new facilities asked for to comply with the Act. Additional staff employed - nil.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS

There are no animal boarding establishments in Portishead.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

Name of Bath	Water			Treatment		Chlorination	
	Main	Sea	Other	Recirculation	Filtration	Automatic	Hand
Battery Point, Lake Grounds	Both		-	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
National Nautical School	-	Yes	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	-

20 samples were taken from Battery Point Pool, all satisfactory.

Temperature, pH and chlorine residual tests carried out twice daily at the Battery Point Pool - all records kept.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Prescribed particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961.

1. Part I of the Act

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by L.A's	13	15	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec.7 is enforced by local authority	15	24	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by local authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	13	19	-	-
	41	58	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found:

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No.of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	1	1	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
	3	3	-	-	-

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork (Sections 133 and 134) - nil